

Youth Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday

March 28, 2024

12:00 PM – 2:00 PM

Huntington One-Stop Office

Meeting Facilitator: Melissa Bias, Executive Director of Region 2 Workforce Investment Board

Present: Chairman Charles Shaw, Melissa Bias (Executive Director Region 2 WIB), Region 2 WIB Staff: Heather Merritt, Malissa Dishman, Affiona Brown, and Burcu Delph. Region 2 WIB Youth: Jakob Quintero. Lena Burdette (UWRC), Marc Sowards (The Center/Harmony House), Tali Gaydosz (COTRAIC), Wesley Varney (MedCare), Derek Hagler (Branches), and George New (Wayne County BOE).

Call to Order: Pastor Charles Shaw – Youth Chair

Prayer: Pastor Charles Shaw

Minutes: A motion to approve the February 2024 Minutes was made by George New and seconded by Tali Gaydosz.

Executive Director Report:

- **Melissa Bias** welcomed everyone and had introductions of all the partners present at the meeting. She spoke to us about how we have been seeing a lot of drop-out students from school. We've taken in 25-30 youth over the last couple of months with no High School Diploma. Melissa Bias turns the meeting over to Heather Merritt, Youth Supervisor.

Youth Supervisor Report/Career Planner's Presentations:

- **Heather Merritt** introduced Marc Sowards, The Center/Harmony House, who gave Narcan Training to everyone in attendance, who had not had the training and to those who wanted to participate.
- **Heather and the Youth Career Planners from R2WIB** gave the updates about their current youth in our program. They informed us of the workshops, training, and promotions that our youth have been involved in over the past month.

Upcoming Events:

- **One-Stop Meeting:** at HWVHA April 3rd from 12:00pm-2:00pm.
- **The Center:** March 29th Karaoke Event; Showing of Taylor Swift Tour April 26th
- **Clothing Drive for the Huntington City Mission:** Drop off clothes to R2WIB in April.
- **R2WIB Solar Eclipse Youth Event:** planning an event TBA for April 8th.

Adjourned at 12:59 pm

Respectfully Submitted by: Malissa Dishman